

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-07 COA-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 DLOS-03

SCS-03 SCA-01 /063 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/LA/EP/E:WSCLARKE:BT

APPROVED BY ARA/LA/EP:JFKING

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL IMMEDIATE

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS:PFOR,EFIS, PLOS

SUBJECT:TUNA BOAT SEIZURES: SHOOTING INCIDENT

REF: QUITO 990

1. FOLLOWING AIDE-MEMOIRE HANDED TO AMBASSADOR CARDENAS
BY ARA/LA-EP 10 FEBRUARY 1975 IN MID-AFTERNOON:

2. QUOTE WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY THE AMERICAN CONSUL
GENERAL NOW IN SALINAS THAT THIS MORNING AT 0800 HOURS, AN
ECUADOREAN GUARD ON BOARD THE OCEAN QUEEN, WITHOUT
PROVOCATION OR JUSTIFICATION, FIRED EIGHT ROUNDS OF AUTO-
MATIC AMMUNITION THROUGH THE ROOF OF THE PILOT HOUSE OF
THE VESSEL. HAPPILY THERE WERE NO INJURIES. PHYSICAL
DAMAGE TO THE VESSEL HAS YET TO BE ASSESSED.

OUR CONSULAR OFFICERS ON THE SCENE HAVE MADE REPEATED
EFFORTS TO INFORM THE EUCADOREAN OFFICIALS OF THE HIGHLY
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VOLATILE SITUATION WHICH NOW PREVAILS IN SALINAS WHERE

YOUNG RECRUITS ARE BEING USED AS GUARDS ON THE VESSELS. WE ARE OBLIGED TO PROTEST THIS INCIDENT WHICH ENDANGERED LIVES AND DAMAGED THE PROPERTY OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS.

THE GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR WILL WISH TO CONSIDER MEASURES TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE, PERHAPS INCLUDING THE REPLACEMENT OF UNTRAINED GUARDS WITH MORE EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL. UNQUOTE.

3. AMBASSADOR CARDENAS SAID THAT HE WOULD CALL FOREIGN MINISTRY SUBSECRETARY IMMEDIATELY TO ADVISE THAT EXPERIENCED GUARDS BE PLACED ON VESSELS. CARDENAS APPEARED QUITE UNDERSTANDING OF DIFFICULT PUBLIC RELATIONS SITUATION PREVAILING SINCE SHOOTING INCIDENT AND COMMENTED THAT HE EXPECTED TUNABOAT ASSOCIATION GENERAL MANAGER FELANDO WOULD DO HIS BEST TO INFLAME HIS CONSTITUENCY.

4. ABOVE AIDE-MEMOIRE WILL BE PASSED TO GOE BY CARDENAS. IF AIDE-MEMOIRE USEFUL TO YOUR EFFORTS IN QUITO, YOU MAY WISH TO REPEAT DELIVERY FROM EMBASSY. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TUNA, SHIP DETENTION, NAVAL FORCES, PERSONNEL CONDUCT, FISHING BOATS, OCEAN QUEEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE030238
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WSCLARKE:BT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750048-0540
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750256/aaaabyje.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 QUITO 990
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNA BOAT SEIZURES: SHOOTING INCIDENT
TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, PLOS, EC, US
To: QUITO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006